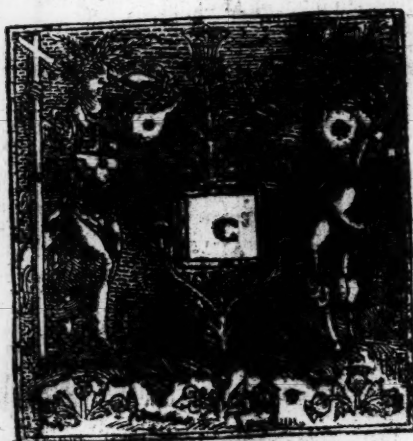




A PROCLAMATION

For discovering and apprehending some Rebels lately in Arms in the West, and their Resettlers.



HARLES by the Grace of God, King of Great Britain, France and Ireland, Defender of the Faith; To Our Lyon King at Arms, His Brethren Heralds, Masters of Our Privy Council, Pursuivants, Messengers at Arms, Our Sheriffs in that part conjunctly and severally, specially Constitute, Greeting: Forasmuch as by the nature of the Monarchy devolved upon Us by God Almighty alone, and by the inherent Privilege and Prerogative of the Imperial Crown of this Our Ancient Kingdom, We are sufficiently Impowered to take such Courses and Methods, as according to the Circumstances of the Times wherein We are Sated, may best secure Our Royal Government, and Our Innocent and Peaceable Subjects: As also by the Laws and Acts of Parliament of this Our Kingdom, All Sheriffs, Stewarts, Lords, and Baillies of Regalities, and Bailleries, and their Deputies are obliged when any Rebellious, and Disorderly People appear openly in any of their Jurisdictions, to Convocate Our Lieges, and to raise the Hue and Cry against them, and never leave the following and pursuing of them, till they be chased out of the said Jurisdictions, and to take and apprehend them, and bring them in, and present them to Justice; And that the Heretors, Commons, and generally all Our Lieges are bound to concur with them. In which, if they fail, as in that which is their duty, We must take such other Courses as may most effectually secure Our Royal Government, and good Subjects. Yet it is undeniable, that for many years, great numbers of Armed Rebels, have most insolently, and rebelliously gathered themselves together, and have not only Marched up and down Our Western Shires of *Cliddisdale*, and other shires below the River of *Forth*, But have assaulted and Murdered several belonging to Our Forces, burnt Our Laws, and Excommunicated Our Sacred Person. And of late, in the Month of *June* last, about two hundred Armed Rebels have presumed, to the great contempt of Our Authority, to March openly through several of the said Shires for many days together, threatening the Orthodox Clergy, and Murdering Our Souldiers, and have at last, (when they found it convenient) disappeared, being certainly and undeniably Harboured, and Reset by the Inhabitants of these Shires, without sufficient diligence done by the Sheriffs, and Inhabitants of the said Shires, either for dissipating them, or for discovering their Resettlers, and bringing them to Justice; By which preparative (if allowed) all Rebels may safely Rise in Arms, and yet be secure. We therefore, with Advice of Our Privy Council, Do hereby Command and Charge Our Sheriffs, Stewarts, and others in the several Shires forsaide, as they will be answerable upon their duty, and highest peril (with whom We Command the Heretors and Commons to concur) To apprehend, and bring in to Justice the Persons of the saids Rebels, who appeared openly in the saids Shires, and to discover to Us, and Our Privy Council, betwixt and the fifteenth day of *August* next, all such as did Reset and Intercommon with them, With Certification, that if they fail, We will for preserving the publick Peace, and Our good Subjects, take such other effectual Courses, as in Our Royal Prudence We shall find most fit for preventing Rebellions, and securing the publick Peace in the Shires above mentioned. And to the effect Our Pleasure in the Premises may be known to all Our Lieges. Our Will is Herefore, and We Charge you strictly, and Command, that incontinent these Our Letters seen, ye passe to the Mercat Cross of *Edinburgh*, and whole remanent Mercat Crosses of the head Burghs of the Shires of this Kingdom, on this side of the Water of *Forth*, and there in Our Name and Authority, by open Proclamation, make publication of Our Pleasure in the Premises, that all Persons concerned may have notice thereof, and give punctual obedience thereto. And We Ordain the Sheriffs of the saids Shires, to cause forthwith publish this Our Proclamation, at the several Mercat Crosses within their respective Shires and Paroch Kirks, and the Ministers of the respective Parochs, to read the same from their Pulpits upon a Sabbath day, after Divine Service.

Given under Our Signet at Edinburgh the twenty and second day of July, 1684. and of Our Reign the thirtieth and six Year.

Per Aſſum Dominorum Secreti Concilij.
WILL PATERSON, Clk. Secreti Concilij.

GOD Save the KING.